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1824

Some account of the  
Medical school in Boston  
and the Massachusetts  
General Hospital.



SOME ACCOUNT

OF THE

**Medical School**

IN

**BOSTON,**

AND OF THE

**MASSACHUSETTS**

**General Hospital.**

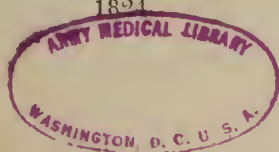
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BOSTON:

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1824



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ACCOUNT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL SCHOOL IN BOSTON,  
&c.

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THE Massachusetts Medical College, an edifice belonging to Harvard University, was erected in Boston in 1815; and the corner stone of the Massachusetts General Hospital was laid, by a separate corporation, in 1818. Before this period, no medical institution, provided with competent means for practical instruction, existed in the eastern section of the United States. The want of such an establishment had been strongly felt, and, several years earlier than the periods which have been specified, two of the medical professors in Harvard University had made an appeal to the affluent citizens of Boston on this subject; to which, and to their subsequent efforts in the same cause, most of the early contributions to the Hospital, and even its present existence, may be justly traced. During late years a degree of public liberality has been manifested, both toward the College and Hospital, which is in the highest degree honourable to the Legislature of the Commonwealth. But the private munificence that has been

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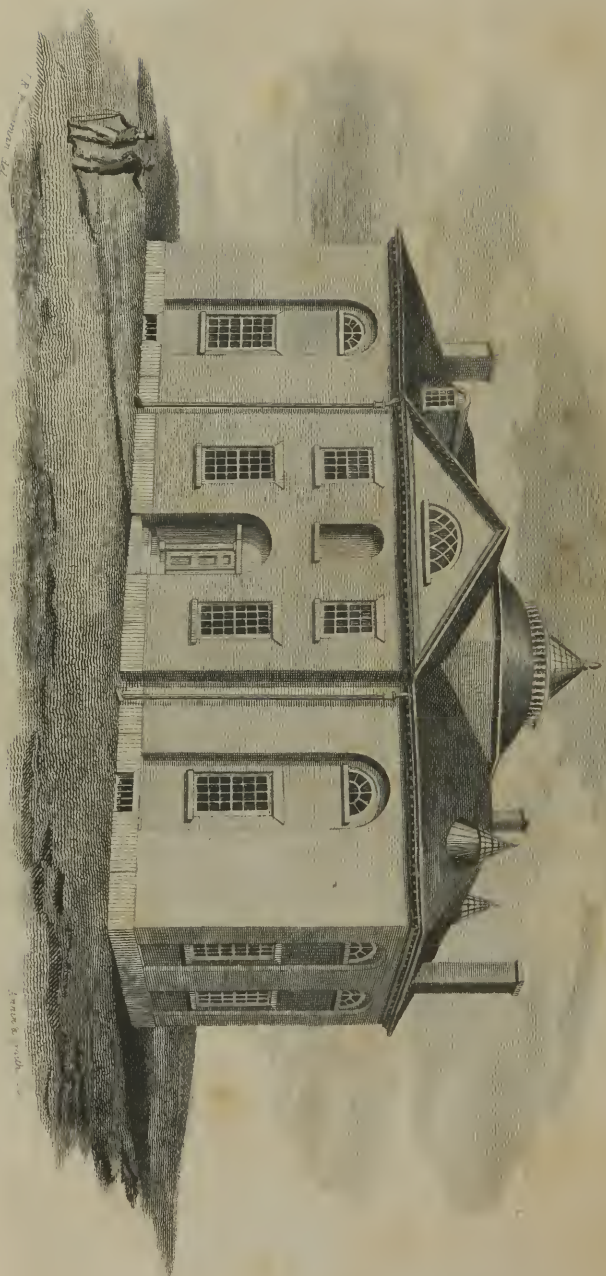
called forth, in behalf of the latter establishment, has been singularly extensive, and is probably without any parallel in the history of charitable institutions in this country. So rapid has been the consequent progress of both these institutions to maturity, that they have been enabled, within a short period, to assume a primary rank among similar establishments; and they now offer to the medical students of the United States such practical advantages for the study of medicine and surgery, as are only found in schools of the highest class, and such as those for which the hospitals and seminaries of Europe are usually visited.

It is the object of the present pamphlet to offer some account of the two edifices, and of their internal arrangements, in connexion with the Medical School in Boston, the students of which seminary have now access to all the advantages which they afford.



The MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL COLLEGE is situated in Mason Street, near the Boston Common and Mall. This building is of brick, 88 feet in length, and 43 in breadth. Its figure is oblong, with a pediment in front, and an octagonal centre rising above the roof, and also forming a three-sided projection in the rear of the building. This is surmounted by a dome with a sky-light and balustrade, giving an air of elegance to the neatness and fit proportions of the building.





MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL COLLEGE.



The apartments on the first floor are, a spacious medical lecture room, of a square form, with ascending semicircular seats; a chemical lecture room in the centre, of an octagonal form, with ascending seats; a chemical laboratory; and a library room. In the second story is the anatomical theatre, occupying the central part of the building, and covered with the dome and sky-light, with semicircular seats, which are entered from above and descend toward the centre. A large and small dissecting room, together with another for the anatomical museum, occupy the extremities of the same story. The whole building is heated by a furnace in the cellar; and a forcing pump and cistern in the roof supply the apartments with water.

In this building are contained the cabinet of anatomical preparations, consisting of more than a thousand valuable specimens; the chemical apparatus, which is complete and costly; the apparatus and specimens used in the lectures on midwifery and materia medica; and the medical library, containing above 3000 volumes. An additional building is about to be erected adjacent to the College, to receive the *Linnaean cabinet*, an extensive collection of objects in natural history, which has lately become the property of Harvard University.

The MEDICAL LECTURES of Harvard University begin in this building, annually, on the third Wednesday in November.

		* Fees.
<b>Anatomy and Surgery,</b>		
	By JOHN C. WARREN, M. D.	\$ 20.
<b>Chemistry,</b>		
	By JOHN GORHAM, M. D.	15.
<b>Midwifery and Medical Jurisprudence,</b>		
	By WALTER CHANNING, M. D.	10.
<b>Materia Medica,</b>		
	By JACOB BIGELOW, M. D.	10.
<b>Theory and Practice of Physic,</b>		
	By JAMES JACKSON, M. D.	15.

During the lectures the students are supplied gratuitously with sets of osteological specimens for study, and can have the use of the dissecting room on defraying the attendant expenses. They are admitted, *without any expense*, to the SURGICAL OPERATIONS and CLINICAL PRACTICE of the Hospital.



The MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL, which is justly considered the finest building in the state, stands at the westerly part of the city, on an enclosed ground of four acres, adjoining Charles River. This edifice is 168 feet in length, and 54 in its greatest breadth, having a portico of eight Ionic columns in front. It is built of white Chelmsford granite, wrought with uncommon labour, the columns and their capitals being of the same material. In the centre of the two principal stories are the rooms ap-

\* Board in the city is obtained by a large portion of the class at \$3.

propriated to the superintendent, the apothecary, and other officers of the institution. Above these is the operating theatre, lighted from the dome, and fitted up with semicircular seats for spectators. Beneath is the kitchen with its various appendages, the bathing room, wash room, laundry, &c. The stair-cases and floorings of the entries are of stone. The whole house is supplied with heat by air-flues from furnaces in the cellar, and with water by pipes and a forcing pump. Various modern improvements in domestic economy, conducive to cleanliness and comfort, are introduced, together with such auxiliary apparatus for the sick as is found useful in the management of their diseases. The wings of the building, in the different stories, are divided into wards and sick rooms, which are fitted up in the neatest and best manner. The number of beds contained in them for patients is at present about a hundred. No insane patients are admitted to this building, these being provided for at the Lunatic Asylum at Charlestown, which is another branch of the same institution.

It is due to those, whose great bounty has formed and supported this important institution, to offer some notice of the sources from which its prosperity is derived. It is honourable to the state, to the city and the age, that after a most liberal provision had been made by the State Legislature to effect the establishment of this charity; a sum amounting to more than *three hundred thousand dollars*, the fruit exclusively of private donations, has, within a few years, flowed in to its support. A simultaneous effort in its behalf from the affluent, particularly in the

city of Boston, has formed an example, which, in this country at least, is without parallel. And it is not too much to assert, that some of the most splendid instances of public generosity, which the present age has witnessed, are to be found among the benefactions of the Massachusetts General Hospital.

The administration of public infirmaries very properly embraces a two-fold object,—the relief of the sick, and the instruction of medical students. With a view to the promotion of both these ends, the Massachusetts Hospital, while it gives accommodation, to the full extent of its means, to the sick poor, gives also admission, which was at first conditional, but is now *free*, to the students of the medical class, attending the lectures of the physician and surgeon. Regular clinical lectures are now given, during winter, by the Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic, and students are admitted to the patients to enable them to become practically conversant with the symptoms of diseases and the operation and influence of medicinal agents.

As is common in large establishments of the kind, many patients resort to the General Hospital to undergo surgical operations, rendered necessary by accident or disease. No other kind of institution affords equal opportunities for acquiring a practical acquaintance with operative surgery. Not only the operations themselves, but the treatment of the cases preparatory and consequent to the operation, and the progress and management of convalescence, may be here studied and observed. The superior conveniences, which a well arranged hospital affords for

the accommodation of the sick, render this institution a resort, not only of the poorer class, among whom, in a large city, accidents are of frequent occurrence, but of other individuals from a distance, who come with the expectation of relief from chronic maladies requiring surgical treatment.

The following is a record of important surgical cases, and of OPERATIONS performed in the Massachusetts Hospital, by the Professor of Anatomy and Surgery, during the short period of twenty-eight months, from the opening of the building in September, 1821, to February, 1824.\*

1821.	Sept.	21.	Operation for prolapsus ani.
	Oct.	18.	Lithotomy.
	"	23.	Operation for popliteal aneurism.
	"	25.	Operation for fistula in ano.
	Nov.	10.	Fractured leg.
	Dec.	9.	Dislocation of the hip in the ischiatic notch.
1822.	January	6.	Fracture of the thigh.
	"	6.	Compound fracture of the leg.
	"	30.	Removal of a portion of the tibia.
	Feb.	5.	Amputation of the leg.
	"	19.	Operation for phymosis.
	"	19.	Removal of diseased toes.
	March	9.	Fractured leg.
	April	22.	Compound comminuted fracture of leg.
	"	24.	Extirpation of tumour from the breast.

\* Indigent patients, from any part of the continent, requiring surgical operations, are received, supported, and attended gratuitously at the Hospital, particularly during the winter months.

1822. June 3. Comminuted fracture of the os humeri.
- July 17. Amputation of the breast.
- August 2. Compound fracture of both patellæ.
- " 30. Removal of foreign substance from the globe of the eye.
- Sept. 20. Amputation of the breast.
- Oct. 12. Extirpation of the parotid gland.
- " 12. Operation for prolapsus ani.
- " 23. Operation for fistula in ano.
- Nov. 23. Operation for cataract.
- " 28. Operation for necrosis.
- " 28. Removing tumour from the foot.
- Dec. 20. Operation for artificial pupil.
1823. Jan. 15. Removing tumour from the side.
- Feb. 5. Removing fragments of rib.
- " 12. Operation for cataract.
- " 18. Operation for inguinal aneurism, the iliac artery tied.
- " 18. Facial nerve divided for tic douloureux.
- " 25. Operation for phymosis.
- " 25. Laying open a fistulous ulcer over the ribs.
- " 26. Inferior maxillary nerve divided for tic douloureux.
- March 6. Fractured leg.
- " 6. Operation for cataract.
- April 4. Operation for cataract.
- " 29. Operation for cataract.
- May 21. Fracture of the thigh.
- " 26. Operation for necrosis.
- " 26. Operation for cataract.
- June 9. Operation for fistula lachrymalis.
- " 11. Operation for cataract.



1823. June 11. Operation for cataract.  
 " 11. Operation for eversion of eyelid.  
 July 15. Excision of hemorrhoids.  
 " 22. Operation for prolapsus ani.  
 August 13. Operation for artificial pupil.  
 " 13. Operation for cataract by absorption.  
 " 14. Removal of a large glandular tumour from the lower jaw.  
 " 20. Distortion of leg cured by removing a section of the tibia.  
 Sept. 30. Dissection of the iris from the cornea, and operation for artificial pupil.  
 " 30. Extraction of cataract.  
 Oct. 14. Operation for artificial pupil.  
 " 22. Excision of a portion of the conjunctiva.  
 " 24. Operation for fistula in perinæo.  
 " 24. Extraction of polypus from the nostril.  
 " 30. Hydrocele cured by injection.  
 Nov. 13. Amputation of the thigh.  
 " 17. Carbuncle.  
 " 22. Secondary cataract removed.  
 " 22. Operation on the iris.  
 " 30. Operation on the conjunctiva.  
 Dec. 1. Operation on the iris.  
 " 13. Amputation of part of the foot.  
 " 20. Amputation of the leg, circular operation.  
 " 20. Amputation of the leg, flap operation.  
 " 23. Operation of trepanning.  
 " 26. Operation for fistula lachrymalis.

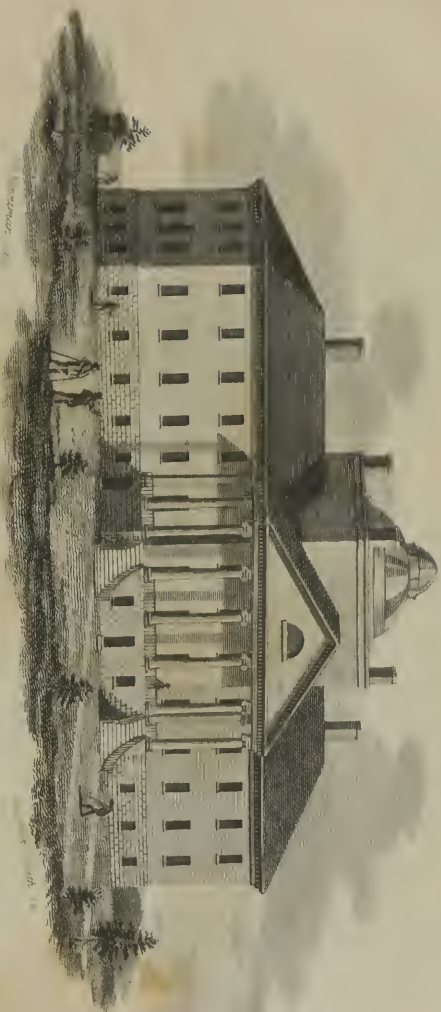
1824. January. Operation for removing fungus cerebri by ligature.
- " 1. Operation for lumbar abscess.
- " 17. Extirpation of cancerous testicle.
- " 29. Operation for hare-lip.
- " 31. Operation for fistula lachrymalis.
- Feb. 6. Moxa applied.
- " 17. Operation for cataract.\*

It is obvious that the privilege of gratuitous admission to so extensive a course of medical and surgical practice is an advantage not usually attainable in medical schools, and one of the highest importance which can be offered during the period of preparation for the medical profession. It may be proper to add, that the cleanliness, punctuality and order observed at the Massachusetts Hospital, the regular and daily attendance of the physician and surgeon, and the introduction of the various kinds of apparatus and modern improvements, which are calculated to increase the power of the medical and chirurgical art; cannot fail to promote, in a high degree, the benefit, not only of the subjects of the house, but of those who study the phenomena and management of their diseases.

It has been the aim of the professors to encourage industry in their pupils, and to ensure a competent knowledge of medicine, both theoretical and practical, before conferring their testimonials of competency to enter the profession. And it has hitherto been their good fortune

\* Out of about one hundred surgical cases in the Hospital last year, only two patients died; and these from the violence of the injuries received before admission.





MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL.



to be attended by a class of students, alike distinguished by their preparatory academic acquirements, and by their correct and gentlemanlike deportment.

Two prizes of \$50 each are regularly offered for the best medical dissertations, by a committee of the University; and the premiums have been annually awarded to young physicians and medical students. A society of students and others, possessing a valuable library, meet regularly for medical discussion and improvement. The benefactor of both these establishments is **WARD NICHOLAS BOYLSTON, Esq.** a gentleman highly distinguished by his liberality in the cause of medical science.

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To students who wish to avail themselves of advantages in the collateral and preparatory studies, a summer residence at Cambridge is recommended; where they may attend lectures on Natural Philosophy, Botany, Mineralogy, Anatomy, Chemistry, the Arts, Belles Lettres, and Ancient and Modern Languages, &c. At this place is the largest library in the United States; the best public botanic garden, now under the direction of Mr. Nuttall; a most valuable and complete philosophic apparatus, used in the lectures of Professor Farrar; a cabinet of minerals, and a chemical apparatus, extensive in their kind; a suite of Italian wax models in anatomy; and whatever is necessary for illustrating the elements of the physical sciences. Probably no place in the United States has collected so many of the useful aids of science, as this ancient and distinguished seminary.

# GENTLEMEN

ATTENDING THE

## MEDICAL LECTURES

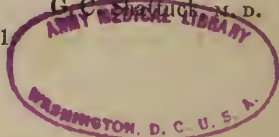
IN

1823—1824.

NAMES.	RESIDENCE.	INSTRUCTERS.
Adams, Horatio,	<i>Middleton.</i>	R. A. Merriam, M. D.
Ames, Jeremiah F.	<i>Dedham.</i>	U. Parsons, M. D.
Aicheson, William, Dr.	<i>Rockingham, Vt.</i>	
Baker, Daniel,	<i>Scituate, R. I.</i>	C. Fiske, M. D.
Ball, Stephen, Jr.	<i>Northborough.</i>	J. Ware, M. D.
Barker, Charles O.	<i>Andover.</i>	J. Ware, M. D.
Barker, Bowen,	<i>Hanson.</i>	E. Alden, M. D.
Barrett, John,	<i>Portland, Me.</i>	G. C. Shattuck, M. D.
Bartlett, Henry,	<i>Charlestown.</i>	J. Gorham, M. D.
Binney, Amos,	<i>Boston.</i>	G. C. Shattuck, M. D.
Blood, Oliver,	<i>Sterling.</i>	N. Heywood, M. D.
Borden, Adolphus K.	<i>Nova Scotia.</i>	H. Orr, M. D.
Bowen, Samuel,	<i>Clarendon, Vt.</i>	W. Abbot, M. D.
Briggs, Cyrus,	<i>Little Compton, R. I.</i>	J. Bigelow, M. D.
Brooks, Ward C.	<i>Boston.</i>	J. Gorham, M. D.
Burdick, Henry N.	<i>Newport, R. I.</i>	Dr. T. T. Wells.
Chapin, Charles O. C.	<i>Brattleboro', Vt.</i>	J. Gorham, M. D.
Childs, Ebenezer, Dr.	<i>Shelburne.</i>	
Clark, Joseph,	<i>Ward.</i>	D. Green, M. D.
Cowdrey, Harris,	<i>S. Reading.</i>	T. Spaulding, M. D.
Cuckou, William K.	<i>Charleston, S. C.</i>	J. W. Schmidt, M. D.
Davis, Edward G.	<i>Boston.</i>	C. Robbins, Jr. M. D.
Dearborn, A. D.	<i>Exeter, N. H.</i>	W. Perry, M. D.
Dearborn, Jonathan,	<i>Northfield, N. H.</i>	A. George, M. D.
Danforth, Samuel,	<i>Boston.</i>	G. C. Shattuck, M. D.
Debrisay, Thomas,	<i>Halifax, N. S.</i>	H. D. Almon, M. D.
Dodge, Samuel,	<i>Wenham.</i>	E. Faulkner, M. D.
Duggan, William B.	<i>Boston.</i>	W. Channing, M. D.
Eastman, Joseph B.	<i>Salisbury, N. H.</i>	Dr. P. Bartlett.

NAMES.	RESIDENCE.	INSTRUCTERS.
Elwyn, Alfred W. L.	<i>Boston.</i>	J. Gorham, M. D.
Emerson, Moses K.	<i>Amherst, Va.</i>	S. A. Shurtleff, M. D.
Farnsworth, Ralph,	<i>Boston.</i>	A. Farnsworth, M. D.
Fisher, Daniel,	<i>Sharon.</i>	W. Channing, M. D.
Fisher, Paul M.	<i>Boston.</i>	J. Mann, M. D.
Fisher, J. D.	<i>Dedham.</i>	J. Ware, M. D.
Flint, John,	<i>Leicester.</i>	Dr. E. Flint.
Flint, Joshua B.	<i>Cohasset.</i>	J. C. Warren, M. D.
Folsom, Thomas O.	<i>Exeter, N. H.</i>	W. Perry, M. D.
Frink, Cyrus,	<i>Portsmouth, N. H.</i>	J. H. Pierrepont, M. D.
Frost, Edward,	<i>Framingham.</i>	S. Whitney, M. D.
Gay, Martin,	<i>Hingham.</i>	R. T. P. Fiske, M. D.
Gorham, David W.	<i>Canandaigua, N. Y.</i>	J. Gorham, M. D.
Greely, Samuel,	<i>Mount Vernon, Me.</i>	J. D. Wells, M. D.
Gutterson, Jackson,	<i>Milford, N. H.</i>	Dr. C. Thomas.
Hanners, George M.	<i>Boston.</i>	J. Bigelow, M. D.
Harwood, Daniel,	<i>Barre.</i>	Dr. E. Flint.
Hildreth, Charles T. Dr.	<i>Haverhill.</i>	J. C. Warren, M. D.
Hilliard, Timothy,	<i>Herrington.</i>	J. Ware, M. D.
Hosmer, Hiram,	<i>Walpole, N. H.</i>	A. Twitchell, M. D.
Howe, Josiah,	<i>Shrewsbury.</i>	J. H. Flint, M. D.
Howe, Samuel G.	<i>Boston.</i>	J. D. Wells, M. D.
Hubbard, Thomas G.	<i>Pomfret, Conn.</i>	J. C. Warren, M. D.
Hubbart, Joseph S.	<i>Boston.</i>	J. Randall, M. D.
Jarvis, Charles,	<i>Concord.</i>	G. C. Shattuck, M. D.
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Kimball, David,	<i>Topsfield.</i>	
Kittridge, George W.	<i>Epping, N. H.</i>	Dr. G. Kittridge.
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Leland, Phineas W.	<i>Grafton.</i>	G. C. Shattuck, M. D.
Little, Henry,	<i>Boston.</i>	J. Bigelow, M. D.
McKean, Joseph W.	<i>Cambridge.</i>	J. J. Walker, M. D.
Marshall, John E. Dr.	<i>Buffalo, N. Y.</i>	
Marshall, Jonas A.	<i>Fitchburg.</i>	N. Miller, M. D.
Mayhew, Julius S.	<i>New Bedford.</i>	Dr. A. Read.
Mason, John,	<i>Castine, Me.</i>	J. I. Stevens, M. D.

NAMES.	RESIDENCE.	INSTRUCTERS.
O'Connor, Maurice,	<i>St. Helena.</i>	Asa Bucknam, M. D.
Orr, Samuel A.	<i>Bridgewater.</i>	H. Orr, M. D.
Palmer, Joseph,	<i>Boston.</i>	C. Robbins, Jr. M. D.
Parris, Samuel B.	<i>Marshfield.</i>	S. Bugbee, M. D.
Pickering, Charles,	<i>Salem.</i>	A. L. Pierson, M. D.
Pierce, Augustus,	<i>Boston.</i>	G. C. Shattuck, M. D.
Plympton, Augustus,	<i>Woburn.</i>	W. Channing, M. D.
Porter, John,	<i>Boston.</i>	G. C. Shattuck, M. D.
Prentice, Nath'l P. S.	<i>Portland, Me.</i>	J. Merrill, M. D.
Prescott, Edes,	<i>Boston.</i>	
Proctor, Leonard,	<i>Littleton.</i>	S. D. Townsend, M. D.
Richards, John H.	<i>Boston.</i>	N. Niles, M. D.
Robertson, Robert,	<i>Boston.</i>	S. A. Shurtleff, M. D.
Robinson, Horatio,	<i>Salem.</i>	J. C. Warren, M. D.
Russ, John D.	<i>Boston.</i>	J. D. Wells, M. D.
Shaw, William A.	<i>North Kingston, R.I.</i>	W. G. Shaw, M. D.
Smith, George M.	<i>Alstead.</i>	A. Twitchell, M. D.
Smith, Dudley,	<i>Keene, N. H.</i>	J. C. Warren, M. D.
Smith, Isaac P.	<i>Manchester.</i>	A. Story, M. D.
Stone, Ebenezer,	<i>Sherburne.</i>	Dr. J. B. Kittridge.
Storer, David H.	<i>Portland, Me.</i>	J. C. Warren, M. D.
Thayer, Frederick,	<i>Boston.</i>	N. Niles, M. D.
Tilton, John F.	<i>Scarboro', Me.</i>	J. C. Warren, M. D.
Townsend, Horatio, Jr.	<i>Boston.</i>	C. Robbins, Jr. M. D.
Tucker, Simeon,	<i>Canton.</i>	E. Alden, M. D.
Tucker, George W.	<i>Boston.</i>	J. D. Wells, M. D.
Walker, Charles,	<i>Charlestown.</i>	J. Gorham, M. D.
Watson, Hiram,	<i>Weathersfield, Conn.</i>	S. B. Woodward, M. D.
Watson, Abraham A.	<i>Cambridge.</i>	G. Bradford, M. D.
Webb, Thomas H.	<i>Providence, R. I.</i>	J. Mackie, M. D.
Webb, Stephen,	<i>Salem.</i>	J. C. Warren, M. D.
Weed, George L.	<i>Catskill, N. Y.</i>	Dr. L. Ticknor.
Wheaton, Horatio G.	<i>Charleston, S. C.</i>	J. B. Whittredge, M. D.
Whiston, Francis C.	<i>Boston.</i>	J. Ware, M. D.
Willard, Henry,	<i>Wrentham.</i>	J. Ware, M. D.
Wyeth, Jacob,	<i>Cambridge.</i>	G. C. Shattuck, M. D.
TOTAL.....101		



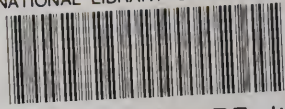
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